

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01
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E.O. 11652: /A
TAGS: PINT,ELAB, IS
SUBJECT: HISTADRUT ELECTION OUTLOOK CONTINUES TO BE UNCERTAIN

1. THE LABATT DISCUSSED THE HISTADRUT ELECTION OUTLOOK WITH MISS MINA ZEMACH OF MODI'IN EZRACHI INC., THE ONE ISRAELI POLLSTER WHO HAD ACCURATELY PREDICTED THE KNESSET ELECTION RESULT ONE WEEK BEFORE THE ELECTION. MISS ZEMACH ATTRIBUTED THE ACCURACY OF HER EARLIER FORECAST TO HER EVALUATION OF THE VOTING PATTERN OF THOSE WHO CLAIMED TO BE UNCOMMITTED. WITH REGARD TO HER LATEST (JUNE 12) HISTADRUT POLL, THE VOTING PATTERN SHOWS 43 PERCENT FOR THE ALIGNMENT PLUS 3 PERCENT FOR THE PRO-ALIGNMENT RELIGIOUS WORKERS' MOVEMENT; 30 PERCENT FOR THE LIKUD, AND 12 PERCENT FOR THE DMC. THIS WOULD CONSTITUTE A DROP OF ABOUT 26 PERCENT FOR THE ALIGNMENT AND THE RELIGIOUS GROUP COMPARED WITH THE 1973 VOTING RESULT, SOMEWHAT LESS SEVERE THAN THE NEARLY 40 PERCENT LOSS IN THE KNESSET ELECTION. THE NUMBER OF UNDECIDED WAS AROUND 13 PERCENT, MUCH LOWER THAN IN THE KNESSET ELECTION.

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2. ACCORDING TO MISS ZEMACH, THERE REMAIN SEVERAL ELEMENTS OF UNCERTAINTY. ONE IS THE EFFECT OF THE DMC DECISION LAST NIGHT NOT TO JOIN A NATIONAL COALITION WITH THE LIKUD. ON THE ONE HAND THIS COULD PIT THE POPULAR DMC CANDIDATE MEIR AMIT AGAINST YERUHAM MESHEL WHOSE POPULARITY IS CLEARLY DECLINING, AS EVIDENT FROM PRESS REPORTS AND PERSONAL

ACCOUNTS BY LABOR LEADERS OF HOSTILE RECEPTIONS FROM VARIOUS WORKERS GROUPS WITH WHOM HE MEETS. A COUNTER-VAILING FACTOR, HOWEVER, IS THAT DESPITE THE DMC COUNCIL VOTE NOT TO JOIN IN A COALITION WITH LIKUD, A MAJORITY OF DMC VOTERS CONTINUE TO SUPPORT SUCH A COALITION, ACCORDING TO ZEMACH. MOREOVER, AS PART OF THE GENERAL REACTION TO THE LIKUD VICTORY, SOME OF THE DMC VOTERS CAN BE EXPECTED TO REVERT TO VOTING FOR LABOR. ANOTHER AS YET UNPREDICTABLE FACTOR IS THE EFFECT OF BEGIN'S EXPECTED ANNOUNCEMENT OF A NEW GOVERNMENT THE DAY BEFORE THE HISTADRUT ELECTION. THIS, PLUS HIS APPEAL FOR NATIONAL UNITY, IS BOUND TO ENCOURAGE THE PRO-LIKUD VOTE. IN THIS CONNECTION MISS ZEMACH POINTED OUT THAT 60 PERCENT OF THE HISTADRUT MEMBERSHIP NOW APPROVES OF THE LIKUD VICTORY (ALTHOUGH THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT 60 PERCENT OF THE MEMBERSHIP VOTED FOR LIKUD) AND ELECTORAL SUCCESSES TEND TO REINFORCE THEMSELVES.

3. MISS ZEMACH EXPECTS THAT THERE WILL BE A VERY HIGH VOTER TURNOUT BECAUSE OF THE GROWING INTEREST IN THE OUTCOME OF THIS ELECTION. THIS COULD HELP THE ALIGNMENT, WHOSE FOLLOWERS APPEAR TO BE SOMEWHAT MORE ACTIVE THAN THOSE OF THE LIKUD. NEVERTHELESS, LIKUD IS EXPECTED TO CONDUCT A SERIES OF RALLIES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY SHORTLY BEFORE THE HISTADRUT ELECTION, CELEBRATING THE INSTALLATION OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT AND URGING THE VOTERS TO CONTINUE THEIR SUPPORT. A GROWING SERIES OF CLASHES AND INCIDENTS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BETWEEN LIKUD AND ALIGNMENT FOLLOWERS BOTH IN TEL AVIV AND IN THE DEVELOPMENT TOWNS ALSO HELPS TO DRAW PUBLIC ATTENTION TO THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, NONE OF THE PARTIES HAVE AS YET READIED THEIR DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTION MATERIAL AND MANY VOTERS STILL HAVE NOT YET BEEN INFORMED OF THEIR VOTING ELIGIBILITY AND THEIR PLACES OF VOTING. THUS THERE IS STILL A GOOD DEAL OF CONFUSION REGARDING THE CONDUCT OF THE CAMPAIGN. LEWIS

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
From: TEL AVIV
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